

he is a wonderful man - the work and
good work - he goes through is astonishing
while at the same time his business as
assistant director of the Garden - and
the scientific position and influence he
has in Sweden and the scientific world
make large inroads on his time. He
has been very hard at Australian
Restiacea & Cyperaceae for the Flora of
Tasmania

I Kirke who is going out with
Livingstone to the Zambezi seems a
very good man - and that is a very good
field - if the fever does not lay him
prostrate

Kindest remembrances to Mr
Gray from Mr Bentham & myself
We go on steadily & quietly and have
therefore nothing to say about
ourselves. I wish we had a chance
of seeing you & Mr Gray in our
comfortable home here

Ever yours sincerely

George Bentham

I wrote this the other day but did not send
it because I thought I would just look at
you. Am. Bot. Exped. where I found you
beautiful plants & descriptions of *Boopispetalum* and
Crotophyta.

And

79
91 Victoria Street
Westminster
Feb 14/50

My Dear Gray

I have long been going to write
to you but for one reason or another
have always put it off. In the first
place as you kindly interested yourself
in my British Flora and wished to see it
as printed off I waited till I could say
I had sent you some of the sheets - but
that has misfired. I stipulated for
two clean proofs that I might send
you one - then came delay; and one
thing and another - and now that
it is fairly en train I find I only get
one clean proof which I am obliged to
keep for indexing etc. However it is now
going on rapidly and will I hope be out
in May. Now that it is known I am
doing it some of my friends say it is a pity
I should employ myself upon the Flora of a
country so well known that there is nothing
more to be said about it, and others think
I am incompetent as not having made
British Botany my special study, which is
not very encouraging - but I was anxious

to try the experiment of a *Flora Forbesiana*
according to my own views - and if I fail I
will readily give them up. The little piece
upon it "Handbook of the British Flora" - You
will see I have adopted some of your suggestions.

You ask how I could have stated that
Morinda had pendulous ovules - I have
been trying to find out how that could
have been for I have no record of having
~~made them~~ examined them and so
many Rubiaceae on occasion of the *Mexico*
Flora as well as when doing some Brazilian
ones on different occasions. The *Mexico* *Flora*
was got up under great pressure from the
bookseller. Dr. Hooker when he went to
India left the MS not half finished - the
Rubiaceae were untouched and had none
of Blauhorn's notes to help me and had to
examine them all with but little time to do
it in - Having ascertained the structure
of most *Guettarda*e and having on other
accounts guessed that *Morinda* should go
with them I believe I had put in my
MS *Morinda*e with a mark "to be examined"
or ex as I generally do and in reading to proof
had inadvertently overlooked the mark - a
very careless thing to do - but - Dr. Baillieon
threatened Sir W. Hooker with law if he
did not provide MS by a certain time or
reimburse all the outlay already incurred.
Seeing in Waller's Catal. a *Plepharidium*
oxymbrium Benth" of which I felt

perfectly innocent I have been led to
examine the plant - which is between
Capeivena and *Gynotroches* (*Dryopteris*)
and which Miq. has named *Dryopteris*
membranaceum - and am just finishing
up a short paper on the *Leguminosae* tribe
of *Rhizophorae* including *Carallia* (*Boottia*
Miq.) *Pellacalyp* ^{*Maytopetalum*} *Austrorhysis* *Gynotroches*
~~*Dryop.*~~ *Alexandriana* and *Capeivena*
and perhaps another new genus. ~~Have~~
When I first wrote this I stupidly thought you had not got so far
you are of the set in your Amer. *Eph. Eph.*?
Harvey has brought one from the Pezize
group of islands (near *Austrorhysis*?) but
scarcely in a state to describe. It is none of
yours.
I believe I told you that I had sent
to Martius the MS of Brazilian *Opuntia*e
all but *Dalbergia* & *Lophocera* - since
that I have been obliged by press of other
things to leave *Leguminosae* wide for the
present - (except a revision of Mueller's
notes on Australian *Acacias* just sent to
the *Ann. Soc.*) - and now I must give
all my spare time to make up another
batch of *Opuntia* plants as he will
be wanting money - He is now at
Baños in Peru having had a very severe
journey up the Huallaga over the Andes
but they say his health, which was
very bad in England, is wonderfully good
with all his hardships and fatigues.
Dr. Hooker keeps you no doubt
an account of all that is going on here